GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:51
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
PRICES OF AGRO PRODUCTS
Chandel Shri Suresh

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of agro products are falling whereas production cost is increasing day- by day;

(b) whether cheap agro-products are being imported after removal of quantitative restrictions on import by the Government;

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for improving condition of farmers;

(d) whether there is any proposal to enhance plan outlay for agriculture to complete pending agriculture projects in the country; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE(SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a) : Prices of major agricultural commodities and cost of production are given in the Annexure.

(b) to (e) : There has been no import of foodgrains for Central Pool Stock for the last five years. In the on-going negotiations on Agreement on Agriculture of WTO, the Government is making all out efforts to maintain necessary protection to domestic producers from subsidised imports. The Government has increased import duties on a number of agricultural products after removal of quantitative restrictions in 2001 to provide adequate protection to domestic farmers. Recently, the import duty on refined palm oil has been increased to 90 per cent and that of crude palm oil to 80 per cent. The import of sensitive agricultural commodities is monitored by a Committee chaired by the Secretary to Government of India in the Ministry of Commerce on regular basis. Efforts are also being made to secure more markets for export of Indian agricultural commodities. The budgetary outlay for agriculture has also been enhanced in 2005.

Annexure

Annexure referred to in reply to Lok Sabha Unstarred Q.No. 51 for 25.07.05

(Rs./Quintal)

Commodity	2000-01		2001-02		2002-03		2003-04		2004-05	
	Costs	Prices #	Costs	Prices #	Costs	Prices #	Costs	Prices #	Costs	Prices #
Paddy /Rice#	429.32	941.00	471.71	928.00	505.16	940.00	525.24	1075.00	530.94	1090.00
Wheat	448.74	614.00	478.92	650.00	483.27	708.00	496.82	736.00	515.56	752.00
Arhar /Arhar dal @	1110.57	2065.00	1154.79	2278.00	1146.62	2441.00	1260.65	2733.00	1262.34	2694.00
Gram/ Gram Dal @	932.93	2193.00	1058.79	2061.00	1101.44	1837.00	1141.59	1753.00	1221.46	1869.00

Groundnut	245.73	1737.00	1255.35	1729.00	1386.43	1757.00	1391.16	1725.00	1507.43	1659.00
Soya bean	865.29	998.00	864.74	1275.00	827.97	1377.00	860.90	1536.00	881.86	1334.00

#: Costs are in respect of paddy whereas prices are in respect of rice.
@ : Costs are in respect of arhar/ gram whereas prices are in respect of corresponding pulses (dal).
#: Yearly wholesale prices as prevailed in Delhi in all commodities except in case of Groundnut/Soyabeans.

In case of Groundnut, prices as prevailed in Hathras. In case of soyabeans, as prevailed at Dewas. Note: Costs represent all-India projected costs as worked out by CACP.